

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1           1. A method, comprising:  
2           determining that a display unit is to be in an off state; and  
3           arranging for an opaque graphical user interface window to be created in response  
4           to the determination.
  
- 1           2. The method of claim 1, wherein the opaque window occupies substantially all  
2           of a graphical user interface area.
  
- 1           3. The method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of windows may co-exist in the  
2           graphical user interface and the opaque window is created such that it would be displayed  
3           on top of other windows.
  
- 1           4. The method of claim 1, wherein the off state is associated with a system's low-  
2           power state.
  
- 1           5. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining comprises:  
2           receiving from a user a request to turn off the display unit.
  
- 1           6. The method of claim 1, wherein said determining is based on a period of  
2           relative inactivity.

1           7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2           determining that the display unit is to be in an on state; and  
3           arranging for the opaque window to be removed.

1           8. The method of claim 1, wherein the display unit is associated with at least one  
2           of: (i) a desktop personal computer; (ii) a mobile system, (iii) a workstation, (iv) a server,  
3           (v) a set top box, and (vi) a game system.

1           9. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said determining and said  
2           arranging is associated with at least one of: (i) a software application, (ii) a hardware  
3           device, (iii) an operating system, (iv) a driver, and (v) a basic input/output system.

1           10. An apparatus, comprising:  
2           an input to receive an indication that a display unit is to be in an off state; and  
3           a device to arrange for an opaque graphical user interface window to be created in  
4           response to the indication.

1           11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the opaque window occupies  
2           substantially all of a graphical user interface area.

1           12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein a plurality of windows may co-exist in  
2           the graphical user interface and the opaque window is created such that it would be  
3           displayed on top of other windows.

1           13. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the off state is associated with a system's  
2 low-power state.

1           14. The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising:  
2 wherein the device is to further arrange for the opaque window to be removed  
3 when the display unit is to be in an on state.

1           15. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the device is associated with at least one  
2 of: (i) a desktop personal computer; (ii) a mobile system, (iii) a workstation, (iv) a server,  
3 (v) a set top box, and (vi) a game system.

1           16. An apparatus, comprising:  
2 a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that when executed by a  
3 machine result in the following:  
4                 determining that a display unit is to be in an off state, and  
5                 arranging for an opaque graphical user interface window to be created in  
6 response to the determination.

1           17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the opaque window occupies  
2 substantially all of a graphical user interface area.

1           18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein a plurality of windows may co-exist in  
2 the graphical user interface and the opaque window is created such that it would be  
3 displayed on top of other windows.

1           19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the off state is associated with a system's  
2 low-power state.

1           20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said determining comprises:  
2 receiving from a user a request to turn off the display unit.

1           21. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein execution of the instructions further result  
2 in the following:  
3 determining that the display unit is to be in an on state; and  
4 arranging for the opaque window to be removed.

1           22. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the display unit is associated with at least  
2 one of: (i) a desktop personal computer; (ii) a mobile system, (iii) a workstation, (iv) a  
3 server, (v) a set top box, and (vi) a game system.

1           23. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein at least one of said determining and said  
2 arranging is associated with at least one of: (i) a software application, (ii) a hardware  
3 device, (iii) an operating system, (iv) a driver, and (v) a basic input/output system.

1           24. A computer system, comprising:  
2 a random access memory unit to store graphical information;  
3 a processor to execute an operating system associated with graphical user  
4 interface windows, wherein an opaque window is created in response to a determination  
5 that a display unit is to be in an off state.

1           25. The computer system of claim 24, wherein the opaque window occupies  
2 substantially all of a graphical user interface area.

1           26. The computer system of claim 24, wherein a plurality of windows may co-  
2 exist in the graphical user interface and the opaque window is created such that it would  
3 be displayed on top of other windows.